

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph on page 43, lines 10-15 of the substitute specification filed on April 12, 2002, to the following corrected paragraph:

Proteins that have a known capacity to bind nucleic acids (such as DNA polymerases, other replicases, and proteins that recognize sites on RNA but do not engage in further catalytic action) yield, via SELEX, high affinity RNA ligands that bind to the active site or binding site of the target protein. Thus, in the case of HIV-1 reverse transcriptase the resultant RNA ligand (called 1.1 in Example 2) blocks cDNA synthesis in the presence of a primer DNA, an RNA template, and the four deoxynucleotide triphosphates.